

EPA Internal Only Version

DRAFT AGENDA for USEPA/USACE/USBR Meeting of 9/25/2007

I. Introductions and Welcome – Gearheard& Shepp et al

II. Background/History - Gearheard & Shepp

A. what happened, how we got to here, current status, Dworshak success, overview of draft Temperature TMDL?, FACA Report, agreements made at November workshop- - - (Mary Lou and Rick P. to develop for Gearheard)

B. Policy Issues

1. Implementation issues/realities

a. Achievability and Potential Need for UAA Process or other CWA relief

b. Specific Opportunities for Temperature Improvement
– e.g., Grand Coulee, Hells Canyon

2. TMDL Issues

a. Natural Condition (No Dams) Baseline

b. TMDL Study Area – Upstream Boundaries and Boundary Conditions

c. Modeling – Model used (RBM10), Other models, Data, Complexity, etc.

III. Way Forward

A. Alternative Strategies for completing TMDL

1. TMDL and CWA flexibility/relief

2. Break into multiple TMDLs that are sequenced (Ben to discuss)

- a. Grand Coulee temperature TMDL
- b. Grand Coulee to Chief Joseph TMDL
- c. Snake River temperature TMDL
- d. Rest of C.R. TMDL

3. Use a different water quality model or multiple models

4. Simplify the TMDL – e.g., group the dam allocations

B. Next Steps

Agenda issues for EPA to discuss internally :

- 1. Roles and relationship- is this to operate like Federal Caucus or like regulator/regulated?
Do we need their concurrence to go forward?

2. How get to crux issues of control, trust, fears (e.g., dam removal), legal liability, CWA relief, TMDL as a nuisance?
3. What are potential impacts of the B.O.?
4. How to manage the meeting?

Breaking TMDL into Sub-TMDLs

Grand Coulee TMDL

- major temp impactor
- feasible options – e.g., powerhouse switch
- first dam in USA on Columbia
- single model for reservoir
- PSU W2 model a possibility

Grand Coulee + Chief Joseph

- same advantages as above
- covers tribal waters (Colville and Spokane)

Snake River TMDL

- different options for scope – e.g., include HC Complex?
- HC Complex and Snake Dams major impactors
- OR/ID TMDL does not address WA border impact
- Solidify Dworshak ops as CWA and ESA compliant

Major Modeling Issues

- Geographic Scope of TMDL – workload ramifications
- Model selection – use existing RBM10 model or another model
 - 1D vs 2D – model runtime, available data
 - Years to be simulated
 - Daily or hourly time step
- Complexity of allocation scheme – affects workload and complexity of modeling
- Potential staffing limitations – options for getting assistance (contract \$, etc.)